GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:36
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2005
DEATH OF LIONS IN GUJARAT
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna;Majhi Shri Parsuram;Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada;Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gir lions are reported to be worst affected in the recent floods in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the number of lions found dead there so far;

(c) whether the Government plans to create a second home to protect the Asiatic Lions;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the other measures being taken to protect Gir lions from the natural calamities?

Answer

(a) & (b) The state has reported death of only two lions outside the Gir Protected Area due to drowing in flood water.

(c)(d)&(e) Yes Sir. The Kuno-Palpur Sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh has been identified as an alternative home for the Asiatic lions, and a project has been undertaken for lion introduction in the said area. Further, funding support under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries is provided to Gujarat, which has the only population of lions in the country.